

Sub 2/3
1. An apparatus for identifying and monitoring women at risk of developing OSE-derived carcinomas, which includes:

includes an introducer needle configured to be capable of insertion into a female such that a terminal end of said needle is positioned adjacent an ovary of the female;

5 a microendoscope having an optic fiber which is operably insertable into said needle in a manner to enable an image of the ovary to be obtained therethrough; and

a tissue removing member operably co-insertable into said needle with said optic fiber therein to enable removal of ovarian tissue cells with minimal deleterious effect to the ovary.

2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said needle is equipped with a stylet which extends through said needle to block unwanted material from entering said needle and includes an end which seats against a neck of said needle and which can be gripped to permit removal of said stylet.

3. The apparatus of claim 2, whereupon removal of said stylet, said optic fiber is further characterized to extend out of an open connector surface of a housing of said microendoscope, wherein said open connector surface is sealably connectable to said neck of said needle with said optic fiber extending into said needle.

4. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said microendoscope includes a housing having an optic fiber operably extending therefrom substantially a length equal to said needle such that when operably inserted therein ends of said needle and optic fiber are generally co-terminus.

5. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said microendoscope includes a fiber optic light source operably connected to said housing such that said optic fiber is illuminated and a camera operably connected thereto for viewing the image seen through said optic fiber.

6. The apparatus of claim 5, wherein said camera is preferably connected to a monitor operably connected to a computer having software to enable viewing of said image and recordation of physician notes into a data file associated with said viewed image.
7. The apparatus of claim 6, wherein said computer includes a microphone operably connected thereto and said software includes voice recognition and is operably associated with said microphone to permit said notes to be recorded via said voice recognition software.
8. The apparatus of claim 6, wherein said monitor and said computer are integrally formed in a touch screen monitor computer.
9. The apparatus of claim 3, wherein said housing further includes a port through which the tissue removing member can be inserted, said port communicating with said open connector surface.
10. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said tissue removing member can be an ovarian cytology brush.
11. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein said housing is v-shaped having partitions therein.
12. The apparatus of claim 1, which further includes a flexible protective tubing covering said optic fiber.
13. A method for identifying and monitoring women at risk of developing OSE-derived carcinomas, which includes the steps of:
- (A) inserting an introducer needle having a stylet therein into a female such that a terminal end of said needle is positioned adjacent an ovary of the female;
- (B) removing said stylet;
- (C) operably inserting an optic fiber of a microendoscope into said needle in a manner to

enable an image of the ovary to be obtained therethrough; and

(D) viewing an image through the use of said microendoscope.

14. The method of claim 13, which further includes the steps of:

(E) operably inserting a tissue removing member into said needle; and

(F) removing ovarian tissue cells with minimal deleterious effect to the ovary.

15. The method of claim 14, which is further characterized such that said optic fiber and said tissue removing member are co-inserted within said needle.

16. The method of claim 13, which further includes employing a viewing monitor with an operably associated a computer to aid in viewing said image and ovarian tissue removal.

17. The method of claims 16, which includes employing software on said computer to record said image and physician notes in a data file on said computer.

18. The method of claim 13, which further includes the step of inserting said optic fiber into a flexible protective tubing prior to performing step C.